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**For Immediate Release**

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## **GEFI Building to Reopen to Public on September 2**

The Department of Administration (DOA) announces that the GEFI building located at 201 East Washington Avenue in Madison will reopen to the public on Tuesday, September 2. The building will be open during normal business hours of 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday. GEFI serves as the headquarters for the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Workforce Development (DWD).

The building has been closed since May 16 because of a fire, which was ruled accidental by the Madison Fire Department. Employees began moving back into the building starting August 4, and all but 75 DWD employees who occupy the area on the fourth floor where the fire occurred have reoccupied the building. Repair efforts remain on track for the fourth floor, and a schedule for occupancy will be conveyed to those staff in the next couple of weeks.

Throughout the closure, DWD and DCF continued to operate their online services as normal. All of DWD's non-GEF1 locations continued to operate normally, including the Unemployment Insurance Call Centers and Wisconsin Job Service centers. All of the services that DCF performs for its partners in counties throughout Wisconsin also continued to operate without disruption. DWD will begin to resume Worker's Compensation and Equal Rights hearings in the GEFI location in the coming weeks.

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